

46(twice amended). A kit for an implant system for placement in the mouth comprising:

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composite material; and
one or more cylinders designed to retain a structural framework material, composite material, or ceramic material, wherein the cylinders comprise a substantially cylindrical body; and one or more shelves disposed on a surface of the substantially cylindrical body.

REMARKS

The Examiner issued a response to the Amendment filed May 30, 2001, stating that the arguments that were presented by applicants pointed out the alleged differences in the intended use of the instant invention as compared to the intended use of each of the references cited by the Examiner, but the reasons were not provided as to why the claims as presented by applicants are not anticipated by the art of record. Claims 1, 12, 43 – 46 were amended to more particularly describe the claimed invention. For the reasons set forth below, the claims as presented by applicants are not anticipated by the art of record.

As explained in the previous response, the cited art teach components of Carlsson '841 and Branemark '645 (the "prior art components") that are used in the working model that is then used to manufacture dental implants. The working model is used to build the actual implant prosthesis. The components of the invention are not part of the working model, but are part of the actual implant prosthesis that is placed in the mouth of the patient.

The cylinders of the invention may have vertical grooves for placement of structural components between the cylinders. The horizontal grooves are provided so that material can be wrapped around the cylinders and, if structural components are present, the material may be further wrapped around the structural components placed between two cylinders.

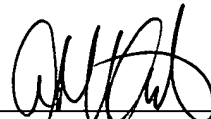
The cylinders of the present invention are fabricated so as to withstand the normal mastication forces and stresses that exist within an oral environment. The "prior art components" in the cited references are not made to be used in the mouth, but merely to provide spacing for components to be used in the implant system.

The framework or other material applied onto the cylinders is a high strength material that must be supported by the cylinder. The cylinder must be of high integrity to support the material applied onto it and further to withstand the forces in the oral cavity. The "prior art components" are not designed to retain a structural framework, composite material or ceramic material for an implant system. The "prior art components" are for temporary purposes and are not used for strength and structural purposes as are the cylinders of the instant invention. One of ordinary skill in the art would not use the "prior art components" in the working model to build a permanent implant system thereon for use in the mouth. The "prior art components" for the working model do not have structural integrity to "retain" the implant system. For all the reason herein set forth, the "prior art components" do not anticipate the claimed invention.

Accordingly, it is believed that claims 1 – 32 and 43 – 48 specify patentable subject matter and are now in condition for allowance. Applicants therefore respectfully request favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application. The Examiner is requested to telephone Applicants' attorney at the number listed below if it will advance the prosecution of this case. If necessary, the Examiner is authorized to charge further fees necessary to advance the prosecution in this case from Deposit Account No. 500718.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Claims 1, 12, and 43 – 46 have been amended as follows:

1(twice amended). A cylinder designed to retain a structural framework material, composite material, or ceramic material for an implant system for placement in the mouth comprising:

- a substantially cylindrical body; and
- one or more shelves disposed on a surface of the substantially cylindrical body.

12(twice amended). An implant system for placement in the mouth comprising:
one or more cylinders designed to retain a structural framework material, composite material, or ceramic material, comprising a substantially cylindrical body and one or more shelves disposed on a surface of the substantially cylindrical body.

43(twice amended). A cylinder designed to retain a structural framework material, composite material, or ceramic material for an implant system for placement in the mouth comprising:

- a substantially cylindrical body;
- one or more shelves disposed on a surface of the substantially cylindrical body;

and

- a cantilever extending from the cylindrical body.

44(twice amended). A cylinder designed to retain a structural framework material, composite material, or ceramic material for an implant system for placement in the mouth comprising:

- a substantially cylindrical body;
- one or more shelves disposed on a surface of the substantially cylindrical body;

and

- a series of nodules, holes or beads disposed on a surface of the cylindrical body.

45(twice amended). A kit for an implant system for placement in the mouth comprising:

one or more cylinders designed to retain a structural framework material, composite material, or ceramic material, wherein the cylinders comprise a substantially cylindrical body; and one or more shelves disposed on a surface of the substantially cylindrical body.

46(twice amended). A kit for an implant system for placement in the mouth comprising:

composite material; and

one or more cylinders designed to retain a structural framework material, composite material, or ceramic material, wherein the cylinders comprise a substantially cylindrical body; and one or more shelves disposed on a surface of the substantially cylindrical body.